

**Public Page**

**Emerging Padding and Related Pipeline-Construction Practices  
Agreement DTRS56-03-T-0005  
1st Quarterly Status Report  
Period July 1, 2003 to September 30, 2003**

**Contractor: Battelle**

The objective of this planned two-year project is to quantify the merits of modifications to existing construction practices and emerging practices related to pipeline padding. The work will assist the Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS) in determining the value of such construction practices when made in the context of performance-based inspection or re-inspection plans in response to pending pipeline safety legislation. The project will complement an INGAA funded program. The combined effort will involve field evaluation of these emerging approaches for benching pipelines and for bedding and padding in areas where native soils contain rock and other debris that could damage the pipeline or degrade its integrity over time. Benchmarks for comparison will cover a variety of soil types, and existing as well as emerging practices, to provide a basis to assess improvements in contrast to current practices.

**Point of Contact:**

Brian Leis  
Battelle  
505 King Ave.  
Columbus, Ohio 43201

[leis@battelle.org](mailto:leis@battelle.org)  
Voice: 614-424-4421  
Fax: 614-458-4421